

CAUSES OF HARD TIMES.

There was a time when, with a much wealth than we have now, we had no difficulties ir the treasury-no deficienmore consequence, no distress among the people. If the causes which produce the present difficulties with the people can be removed, we certainly will return to the old condition of prosperity and happiness. It would seem that there should be no difficulty in villains; and it is better to let them sefinding out what changes have occurred and in ascertaining beyond question the cause of our present troubles. There must be something radically wrong somewhere if the richest and freest nation on the globe is in such a condition of absolute belplessness and dependence as the President of the United States seems to consider us now. In this country the people are the source not only of power, but also of all | tion of these two factors he can control wealth and prosperity. When they are | the world's markets. In view of such prosperous business will flourish, all conditions how absurd to keep up the branches of commerce will be active, and no financial difficulties will come to the treasury except as the result of | brance of high tariff in order to go forth insufficient revenue laws; but no revenue system, no matter how wisely or judiciously formed, can provide revenueualess there is commerce and active business. A time of industrial depression and commercial stagnation must · be and ought to be a time of embarrassment for the Government. The laws we now have on the statute books will, with the revival of business, provide ample revenue. The change needed is not in the revenue laws, but in the financial condition of the people at large. Whatever embarrassments the Government may now have to encounter are the result of the depressed condition of all branches of business and the unsatisfactory condition of the people generally. If we can devise a means of relieving these, there will be no difficulty about the condition of the Government or of the revenues.—From James K. Jones' speech, in the United States Senate.

Supply and Demand.

We all recognize the principle of supply and demand when it is applied to the commodities. Then why should we not recognize it when applied to gold and silver? There existed for centuries, at least in some nations, the right of any person to take gold and silver bullion to the mint or mill of the gov ernment and have it coined into legal tender money. Would not the taking away of that right as to one metal affect not only its value but also that of the other? Suppose the nations of the world were to conclude, from a scientific inquiry, that it was unhealthy to eat wheat bread, and that as a sanitary measure they should pass laws that millers should no longer grind wheat? If that law could be enforced, what effect would it have upon the price of | wheat? Every one knows that the minute that law took effect wheat would sink lower and lower in value until it reached a price equal to what it would be worth to feed to animals Why? Because the very demand for which wheat had been raised was de stroyed, and consequently its value must be fixed by the next thing for which it is demanded. What effect would this same law have upon the price of corn? You know that the minute that law took effect corn would begin to rise rapidly and go higher and higher in price until it reached double its former value. Why? Because the enormous demand which existed for wheat and corn had been transferred to corn alone; and as the demand for corn had been doubled, it must of necessity double the value thereof. Gold and silver are metals that are subject to the same law of supply and demand, and consequently must yield in price as the demand is removed from one and shifted to the other.

What Is Money?

Money is as necessary to the masses as blood is to the human system. With a full supply of money to transact the legitimate business of the nation, the prosperity of the people is assured Then comes up the question, what is money? All civilized nations establish their own standards of money. While England has her pounds, shillings and pence, France has her franc, while we adopted the standard of the British system. Since the establishment of this republic, all our money has been represented by the dollar, be the transaction | lish free trade between this country standard and shall remain so.

On the Defensive.

Republican orators have settled down to the work of defending the administration. It is not so much a campaign of apology for the corruption and favoritism of the administration as it is one of justification, but which needs an immense amount of explaining and defending. This means that the policy of not lie idle. It will be used to buy the administration is not to be changed lands, buy labor, build houses, build in any way, but the people are to be factories, build railroads, and carry on made to believe that the administration | business. It will be that much new knows better than they what is good blood and will give us an activity and for the country.-Kansas City Times.-

The Trusts Are Prosperous. It is a poor sort of a day that does not witness the formation of a trust of huge proportions. Among the late born into the family is the wall paper trust, thirty-five or forty millions dollars' capital, and it is boldly stated that prices of wall paper will advance 25 to 50 per cent. The plug tobacco trust is now suspicion, is deplorable, and sometimes expected to make its appearance in a tragic; but it is inevitable that such in- or ambitions .- New York Times.

few days, "made necessary by the low price of plug tobacco," and so the dance goes on. But it is all right; the people smaller population and much less like them; they read in some trust-subsidized paper that "trusts are a good thing," and that settles it. Higher cy of revenue and, what was of much prices for nails, steel, coal, crackers, other things count for nothing when considered alongside the virtues of trusts and the blessings they shower upon the people. It is a pleasure to be

Farm, Stock and Home.

lect, elect and control all public offi-

cers, for they are in "the business of

governing," and know how to do it .-

Protection an Incubus. The American manufacturer not only has natural resources at his command, but also possesses skilled labor and superior machinery, and in the combinacry of protection to home industries. We have but to throw off the incumand conquer the whole commercial world. Even with this handicap the vigorous young giant of American industry is making rapid headway. The policy of protection is fast becoming an anomaly for this commercially expanding nation. Our erstwhile "infant industries" have outgrown their swaddling clothes.—Detroit Free Press.

Why Not?

Here is a subject for farmers to discuss at the institutes this winter. There is no class more interested in the currency question than the farmers. You are told that money is plenty, in fact lying idle in the banks, who are anxious to loan it to you in their paper promises, but you must engage to pay it back in gold. You can't object, as your sanction is necessary to their existence, and the national treasury sets them the example by locking up such vast amounts of gold, silver and greenbacks representing money in the treasury. Why not coin all the gold and silver as fast as it comes from the mines and pay the soldiers, and thus put it in circulation?

Possible Renewal of the War.

Vexatious delays indicate that Spain s not prepared to yield all that is demanded of her, and that she is playing for delay, in the vain hope that something may happen, such as a general upheaval, or the assistance of another power, which might save to her some of her dependencies. The reluctance to abandon Cuba is particularly marked, and the fact that there are still fully 150,000 Spanish troops in that island makes it barely possible that further resistance there might be tried. While hoping for the best, it would be a mistake for the administration not to prepare for the worst .- New Orleans Pica-

Day of Reckoning Coming.

Among other things that the present administration will have to stand inquiry into sooner or later is the cause of the recent Indian outbreak in Minnesota. We pretty well know the cause of the outbreak of corruption in the War Department. Perhaps there may have been some "sound business methods" in the Interior Department that would repay investigation. Hitherto peaceable Chippewa Indians would not be liable to insurrection without some reason that it behooves the country to know about. What a winter of scandal and wrecked reputations we are moving toward!-Washington Times.

Characteristically Erratic.

Col. Roosevelt, with immaculate gravity, warned the audience he addressed in New York City the other night that the United States, in continuing to act on the advice of George Washington as regards the expansion of its territory, were in danger of lapsing into the condition of China. We are inclined to wonder if the Colonel thinks he makes votes by this kind of talk or if it is only the exhibition of that erratic quality in him as a man of judgment which has contributed to lose him public confidence in his previous career.—Beston Herald.

Why Restricted Free Trade? At a banquet recently given by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association. resolutions were adopted in which the national government is asked to estab-

great or small. In no case is the eagle | and Cuba, the Philippine islands and mentioned. The silver dollar is our Porto Rico. It is not explained why the Illinois Manufacturers' Association drew the line there. Surely if free trade is a good thing it should not be confined to a few islands, where our trade relations can at best be but small. -Denver Post.

> Effect on Labor of Restoring Silver. Let us have all the silver we can possibly get converted into money. It will a prosperity better than we have yet seen. The laborer will be the first to feel its benefits, for there will be an immediate demand for his services-not only will all be employed, but wages

will go up. Arrest of Quay.

The lapse of a man in high station, whom everybody has considered above

dividual lapses shall occasionally occur, and they are not a disgrace to the community. Quay, arraigned on a criminal charge, even though it is not proved, shows Pennsylvania up to the world in an infinitely worse light than would the actual conviction of a man in whom the people had been deceived. The people of Pennsylvania have not been deceived in Quay. They have known perfectly all along what kind of a man he was.—Baltimore News.

The Next Congress.

The chances of Democratic control of the next House of Representatives seems to be growing as the date for the Congressional elections draw near. Like the campaign of two years ago, to oil, wall paper, tobacco and countless the middle West is to be left the final decision. The Democrats are claiming things in that section with much more confidence than the Republicans, but perhaps there it yet a chance for Hanrobbed by such sweet, mild-mannered na's barrel to get in its work. It appears to be conceded by Republicans that their only chance is through the use of a great corruption fund. What a travesty upon popular government.-Atlanta Constitution.

Too Much Leniency Shown.

We have yet to hear that responsibil ity for the horrors of the transportships has been fixed upon anybody, yet to hear of any cashiering of officers whose gross neglect of the rudiments of sanitation made fever epidemics in the camps inevitable, yet to hear that contractors have been heavily mulcted for failure to furnish supplies of the stipulated quality and quantity at the places and times agreed upon. But news has come not infrequently of men in the ranks shot dead for breaches of discipline. The severity may have been justifiable. How about the leniency?-New York Times.

Infamy in the Legislature.

There has never been a more open and notorious sale of privileges to monopolies and corporations in any State than was exhibited by the Legislature of Illinois in the passage of the Allen-Humphreys-Yerkes bill. And John Riley Tanner approved of this shameless prostitution by placing the sign manual of his office upon the back of these infamous violations of a people's trust.—St. Louis Republic.

Alger Making War on Miles.

It is said that Alger loses no opportunity to snub Gen. Miles, going so far as to not consult the latter in the campaign against the Pillager Indians at Bear Lake. This is no surprise after the petty malice exhibited by the publication of a misrepresentative paragraph from a private letter as a means of getting even with a courageous critic of the War Department.-Pittsburg Dispatch.

Tariff and the Woolen Industry. hard to trace the stagnation in the

woolen industry to the Wilson tariff. Strange that the mills should have done a prosperous business while that tariff was in force and that suspensions and assignments should have begun just as the Republican orators were beginning to call attention to the splendid fruits of Dingleyism.-Manchester (N. H.) Union.

Step Up and Settle.

After surveying the field Mark Har, na concludes that it will cost \$2,000,000 to save the next House of Congress to the Republican party. Order out the fat fryers!-Boston Globe.

Lay the Blame on Tanner. The Governor's position as to imported miners may wear well in politics, but it will hardly be acceptable in riots.—Peoria Journal.

To him alone is due primarily all the blame for a tragedy which every true friend of labor will sincerely deplore.-New York Mail and Express.

If Tanner had responded to the appeal of the Sheriff he would probably have prevented the bloodshed and forced all concerned to remain within their rights as citizens.-Sioux City (Iowa) Tribune.

The tragedy at Virden, Ill., might have been prevented had not Governor Tanner tried to steer a middle course between the dictates of the law and the desire for popularity.-Boston Tran-

The conclusion is unavoidable that if Governor Tanner had anticipated the trouble at Virden by supplying an adequate force for the protection of all life and property threatened this clash would not have occurred.-Buffalo Ex-

It was his duty to preserve the peace and let legislatures and courts attend to the rights and wrongs of the ques tion. He chose the demagogue's part, and the results place him in no credit able light.-Minneapolis Times.

As long as it is possible to place John R. Tanner in the Governor's chair of a great State the domestic problems of this nation are not solved, and there is no civic patriotism and philanthropy to spare in uplifting distant barbarians. Detroit Free Press.

If a party of disorderly miners were preparing to prevent these laborers from working, it was the duty of the State's executive to take all precautions against riot and anarchy. Governor Tanner chose to ignore his duty. -Indianapolis News.

Governor Tanner of Illinois has es tablished a unique method in dealing with riots. He waits until the riot has taken place and a number of men have been killed, then he makes a move to send troops to disarm both sides and restore peace.—Kansas City Star.

The part taken by the Governor of the State is not pleasant to contem- boats are supplied with these formidaplate for those who like to think that | ble weapons for their main batteries. the Executive derives his authority solely from the law, and has no right to inject into it his personal prejudices along a conducting wire may be regard-

"THE PRETTY SERGEANT."

A Woman Who Served in the Napoleonic Armies.

French heroine, who was decorated with the order of the Legion of Honor for distinguished bravery during one of the campaigns of the French army in Spain, is graphically told by Emile Cere in his history of the "Madame Sans-Gene et Les Femmes Soldats."

In the conscription of 1806 a young man by the name of Ghesquiere was enlisted among the forced recruits of the department of the Haut-Rhin. The beardless conscript was frail and delicate, utterly unable to bear the fatigues and hardships of war. Realizing the physical incapacity of her twin brother, whom she very closely resembled, the brave and unselfish sister, Virginia, decided to take his place in the ranks.

With the courage of a high and noble motive, Virginia Ghesquiere begged her parents to allow her to do for France what her brother's ill health rendered it impossible for him to do, and so earnestly did the young patriot plead that she won their consent.

Donning her brother's apparel, the intrepid girl presented herself at the department on the following day, and was assigned to the Twenty-seventh Regiment by the unsuspecting officer whose duty it was to enroll the re-

For six years the brave young woman preserved her disguise, and during this period was several times rewarded for gallant conduct. At Hagram the "pretty sergeant," as the modest, effeminate-looking young soldier was generally called, had the honor of saving the life of the colonel of the regiment, who had fallen into the Danube, and would have perished but for her efforts.

On the second day of May, 1808, after the Battle of Lisbon, the "pretty sergeant" performed a deed of valor that won for her the decoration of the Le-

gion of Honor. The girl soldier, who was now sergeant of a company of riflemen, perreived at a short distance from the field of battle the figure of the colonel of the regiment lying under the body of his dead horse. Turning to two comrades, she said, "The body of a colonel is a flag that belongs to the regiment, and the Twenty-seventh will retake it.'

the prostrate officer, followed by two soldiers. Her comrades, both weak from loss of blood, were unable to reach the goal, so that the burden of the affair fell upon her slender shoul-

On reaching the spot, she found it impossible to lift the heavy body of the fallen officer, tug and struggle as she might! She was now, moreover, beset by two straggling English soldiers. Seized by a sort of frenzy The Republican papers are trying at this cowardly interruption of a merciful deed, the little sergeant fired at one of her assailants, wounded him in the shoulder, and then disabled the other by vigorous blows from her gunstock.

Both Britons surrendered, and assisted her in placing the officer, who still breathed, upon a horse which had still strayed near. Compelling the Englishmen to allow themselves to be attached to the horse's tail, the "pretty sergeant" made a triumphal entry into camp, and soon after made a Chevalier of the Legion.

One of the most singular circumstances of this curious history is that after the wars were over, the woman who had won renown on the battlefield and public recognition from the Empire chose to return to her native province, and resumed there the old, simple, tranguil domestic life of her childhood.

Virginia Ghesquiere died in 1855, but her memory will always live among the inhabitants of Delemont, who from one generation to another will tell their children's children the story of the girlsoldier who served France so heroically for her brother's sake.



One of the features of the new hos oital building in Berlin is to be a large coom in which patients suffering from ung diseases can breathe air artifi cially impregnated with salt.

It has been found in Japan that the most effective way to teach the native: o take precautions against the spread of disease is to show them the living organisms in polluted water by means of microscopes placed in the temples.

It is said that the castor oil plant is abhorred by nearly all members of the animal world; that moles may be driven from a lawn by planting a few castor beans in it, and that neither the terrible 'army worm," nor the all-destroying ocust will eat it.

The high quality of Swedish steel was strikingly illustrated at a recent exhibition. A steel ribbon, cold rolled, was twined like a silken band about one of the pavilions, the length of this mon ster tape being 2,345 feet, its width eight inches and its weight 1,146 pounds.

The four-inch rapid-fire guns of the American navy are found to be highly effective in action. Four men handle the ammunition, and two sight and fire the piece. The projectile is a 33-pound shell, with fourteen pounds of smokeless powder, and it perforates five inches of steel at 1,500 yards. Six shots a minute are the average. All the gun-

The speed of electricity is so great that its passage from point to point ed as practically instantaneous. Va- man may grow younger.

rious attempts have been made to meas, ure the rate at which it travels, and observers, with delicate instruments, have affirmed that it was not less than The story of Virginia Ghesquiere, the 114,000 miles per second, and in one or two places its speed was as high an 240,000 miles.

Miss Elizabeth Taylor, writing in Popular Science News of the plants and flowers of Iceland, describes a curious sight which she witnessed in the lava fields near Reykjahlid. Noticing wreaths of steam issuing from the summit of a small volcano, she climbed up there, and found a band about two feet wide, of beautiful plants, bearing large flowers, encircling the interior line of the crater. The steam warmed the flowers and the rim of rocks protected them from the cold winds without.

It is said that lightning may be recognized at a distance of 200 miles when clouds among which it plays are at a high altitude, but that thunder can seldom be heard at a greater distance than ten miles. The sound of thunder is also subject to retraction by layers of different density in the atmosphere, as well as to the effects of "sound shadows," produced by hills and other interposed objects. These are among the reasons for the existence of the so-called "sheet" or "summer" lightning, which seems to be unattended by thunder.

Remarkable photographs of the "ring nebula" in the constellation Lyra have recently been made at the Mendon Observatory near Paris. These pictures show a great deal of diffused nebulous matter inside the ring, but none outside, while in the center appears the image of a star. This star can also be seen with a telescope. But the drawings of the ring nebula made by Herschel in 1833, by Lord Rosse in 1844, and by Trouvelot in 1873, show no star there, and Monsieur Rabourdan thinks this may indicate that changes are going on in the nebula; such, for instance, as the formation of a solar body within the

HER LITTLE JOKE.

The Busband Not the Only Humorist in the Family.

A Washington man connected with the publishing business is fond of a practical joke and has likewise a constant and unchangeable ambition to 'show off" in the presence of his wife. As she spoke she advanced toward Recently he was at a gathering of men where a well-known specimen of his favorite kind of humor was employed to aid in the merrymaking. The next morning at breakfast he said very

> gravely: "Susan, it has been a long time since I gave you anything as a token of my affectionate esteem."

"I need a winter wrap," she suggest ed gently. "We will think of that later. What I

mean to give you now is diamond

"Right now?" she exclaimed. "Yes," he answered, as he dived into his pocket. "Here's a dime and here (touching the servant's bell) is the ring. There you have a dime and ring." Then he said "Ha-ha!" at the top of

his voice many times. He was rather tired when he got

home that evening. "Is there any dessert?" he inquired, after he had eaten all that had been

placed before him. "Yes," she answered. "It is something that I am sure you ought to appreciate. I went out and had it espe-

cially prepared for you." She took from the sideboard and placed before him a small card, upon which was printed.

MCINE. "What's this?" he inquired, as he held it off and started at it. "That," she replied sweetly, "is mines,

Limits to Marriageable Age.

oi."-Washington Star.

It makes considerable difference in he matrimonial advantages of a person where he may have been born or is a citizen. This remark applies with peculiar force to the minimum age which renders a union legal. It in a measure implies the consent of parents or guardians in all the instances cited, although once united the law sustains the marriage maugre dissent of the parents, etc. In Austria fourteen years are looked upon as sufficient to entitle person of either sex to take on the burdens of matrimony. Germany requires the male to be 18 and the female 16. In France and Belgium the man must be 16 and the woman 15. In Spain the intended husband must have passed his fourteenth year and the woman her twelfth. The law in Hungary for Roman Catholics is that the man must be 14 years old and the woman 12; for Protestants the man must be 18 and the woman 15. In Greece the man must have seen at least fourteen summers and the woman twelve. In Russia and Saxony they are more sensible. and a woman until she can count sixteen. In Switzerland men from the age of 15 and women from the age of 12 are allowed to marry. The Turkish law provides that any youth and maid who can walk properly and can understand the necessary religious service are allowed to be united for life.

Electric Cars for Spain.

Spain may be in the threes of political disorganization and financial ruin. but she cannot do without the ubiquitous trolley. Extensive systems are now to be put in at Madrid and Barcelona. The total amount of the contract is nearly \$1,000,000, and the equipment or rolling stock will include 160 motors. The money engaged in the enterprise is British.

The trouble with too many children is that the education of their parents has been sadly neglected.

Any man may grow richer, but no

INTEMPERANCE IN HAVANA

Cubans Treat Tippling as the Chief Business of Life.

"Havana is the one place where the chief occupation of the inhabitants seems to consist of tippling," said William Ryan, the well-known Virginia

journalist, at the Metropolian. "It is the drinker's paradise, and also the smoker's, for in these two habits everybody indulges with a freedom I never saw elsewhere. People get up rather early in the Cuban capital to enjoy the cool morning air, and scarcely take anything except a coffee and roll before breakfasting at 11 a. m. Before that period the regulation amount of tipple for a Cuban gentleman is six gin cocktails. Thus fortified he can make out till the first meal of the day, at which it is the proper and customary act to drink a bottle of claret and likewise a bottle of champagne. The latter costs just as much, too, let it not (scape your mind, as it does in the United

"Now, having breakfasted, our friend s getting ready for the serious business of the day-the consumption of other spirituous drinks. His fancy turns to brandy and soda at this stage, and ere the dinner hour arrives he must have swallowed no less than six b. and s's.; at least he is shy of the requisite quota unless that many have followed the gin cocktails. There is no limit, though, at the half-dozen station, but it is regarded as a minimum. Dinner comes on, and with it another bottle of claret and ditto champagne, just as at breakfast. In the evening there is no regular program, but mixed drinks are indulged in ad libitum. I will say, inidentally, that payments for all drinks are on a eash basis.

"This is no fancy description, but is just what the average individual Cuban will regale himself with in twenty-four hours. With it all, it is the rarest thing in the world to see anyone intoxicated. The only drunken man I saw down there was an American. As far as the drinking goes nobody in Havana considers that the custom of the island in this respect is at all to be criffeised as excessive. The climate is such that men can stand a vast amount of drinking without apparent injury."-Washington Post.



It is now said that the manuscripts of "The Heavenly Twins," "Ships That Pass in the Night," and "Robert Elsmere," were all declined by one New York publisher.

Ethel Voynich, author of "The Gadfly," is 33 years old, and is Irish by birth and English in ancestry, being the daughter of the logician, Boole, Her husband is a Pole of quiet tastes who has long lived in London.

Jules Verne, who is in his 70th year, is living at Amiens, France, in robust __ health and spirits. He has written seventy-six books, and is still at work, His hardest work, he says, has been to read up the stories of travelers in order to write his own stories, for he himself has traveled very little.

The family of Alma-Tadema, the Royal Academican, seems to be remarkably gifted. His wife is a skillful painter. His daughter, Miss Ann, won a medal at the last Paris exhibition, and the second daughter. Miss Laurence Alma-Tadema, is the author of the novel, "The Wings of learns,"

Le Revue de Paris prints a letter written by Balzae, in which he describes a visit to George Sand at her country chateau. "I found the camarade," he said, "in her dressing gown, smoking a cigar, wearing red trousers. and yellow slippers. She had a double chin, like a monk." He also states that George Sand went to bed at 6 a. m. rose at midday, and smoked to excess. Shedressed her daughter as a boy.

Give me a nook and a book, And let the proud world spin round; Let it scramble by hook or by crook For wealth or a name with a sound, You are welcome to amble your ways Aspirers to place or to glory:

May big bells jangle your praise. And golden pens blazon your story! For me, let me dwell in my nook, Here by a curve of this brook That croons to the tune of my book, Whose melody wafts me forever On the waves of an unseen river, Farm and Fireside.

Mr. Zangwill tells me (writes a correspondent of the Westminster Gazetter that many years ago he sent a short poem to one of the best known of the American monthly magazines. The poem came back by the first mail. But Mr. Zangwill kept it by him, and quite recently he sent it on again to the same and a youth must refrain from matri- magazine. This time, immediately on mony till he can count fourteen years | its receipt, he received a cable from the proprietors of the magazine offering to buy the "world rights," and almost immediately they issued a large poster intimating that their next issue would contain a poem by I. Zangwill. The poem was the same, word for word, but in the interim Mr. Zangwill had achieved fame, and his signature war worth money.

Careful Wife.

"Now, Henry, don't forget! The band round your hat means that you must order that medicine at the druggist's: the string round your finger is for the theater tickets; the bow on your arm is to remind you to post my letter to mother, and knot in your handkerchief isfor that paper of needles, and that bean in your shoe will remind you of the corn plaster. Good-bye, dear, andbe careful of yourself!"-Ex.

If a woman has motherly instincts, she particularly admires a boy who looks as if his appetite might be good.